

Subject: Happy Holidays! A Year in Review
From: "L.A. City Controller Ron Galperin" <controller.galperin@lacity.org>
Date: 12/23/2016 05:38 PM
To: Kathryn Besten

Dear Kathryn --



With the Holidays upon us, I am reflecting on the incredible work this office has accomplished. We released a dozen audits and several award-winning data panels. We also hosted the first ever Iron Viz—connecting the public with government in new and innovative ways.

As I contemplate what lies ahead in 2017, I am thankful to be able to continue to serve the communities of Los Angeles. I continue to be committed to our values and beliefs for an open, transparent, and fiscally responsible government. My office will be hard at work in bringing solutions to address our housing crisis, bring additional measures to safeguard taxpayer funds, and create additional revenue generating opportunities.

Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season!



Highlights from 2016

PropertyPanel.LA

My office released [PropertyPanel.LA](#), the most comprehensive map ever produced of properties owned by the City of Los Angeles, and issued a call for L.A. to appoint a Chief Asset Manager to oversee its extensive portfolio of real estate holdings.

Our goal in releasing the information is to enable the City to capitalize on its real estate holdings, which include police and fire stations, pools and parks—but also a wide-ranging collection of commercial, residential and industrial buildings, as well as vacant land.

Read Controller Galperin's letter to the Mayor and the City Council [here](#).

Domestic Violence has No Place Here

The audit conducted by my office on [the City's domestic violence programs](#) showed

that the City was not doing enough for the victims of this heinous crime—and more investment in resources was one way we could do better.

This year the City adopted many of our recommendations—and increased the number of response teams in the LAPD and significantly increased spending on programs like shelters for the victims of abuse.

In addition, we partnered with Mayor Garcetti to launch a campaign to let victims know how to get help. Click [here](#) to view the new ads.

LAX Interactive Dashboard

Our online LAX data tool "Ready for Takeoff" continues to win awards, including the Outstanding IT Project Award from GovernmentTechnology magazine. With real-time noise level tracking, airplane emissions and flight delay data, and traffic and airport spending charts, Ready for Takeoff is a valuable tool for all Angelenos.

Click [here](#) to access Ready for Takeoff.

Prop O: Good Projects but a Poor Financial Practice

Our [audit of Prop O](#)—the 2004 measure that financed stormwater system improvements—revealed that while the City has done a commendable job implementing [clean water projects](#), the City also spent \$6.8 million on unnecessary interest payments over five years on its bonds. Working with the CAO, we issued a letter to change the process on how bonds are issued, saving the taxpayers money long-term.

Read the letter [here](#).

Looking Ahead to 2017

The Affordable Housing Crisis

A decade ago, the State Legislature created the density bonus program—a zoning tool that permits developers to build more housing units, taller buildings, or more floor space than normally allowed, in exchange for provision of a defined public benefit, such as a specified number or percentage of affordable units included in the development.

As many groups look at how to maximize the use of our density bonus program, my office will be providing useful data to add to this conversation.

Ensuring Safe Rental Housing

My office is undergoing an audit of the [Systematic Code Enforcement Program \(SCEP\)](#). The purpose of SCEP and the complaint inspection program is to verify compliance with the standards set forth in the applicable building and housing codes. The SCEP and complaint inspection programs aim to maintain the quality of life enjoyed by the residents of the City.

Our audit will assess the effectiveness of the program overall and review both financial and programmatic processes. I look forward to releasing the findings in the coming months.

What's at the Zoo?

My office is currently evaluating the governance structure at the L.A. Zoo and the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA), the nonprofit corporation created to support and fund the Zoo's programs. My team will have recommendations on how to

improve the services and finances of this great City asset.

Improving Park Space

We are continuing our survey of City parks and evaluating the conditions, amenities and overall usefulness to the community. Our goal is to make recommendations that will help guide the Dept. of Recreation and Parks in allocating resources in order to better meet the community's needs. We are in the midst of data gathering and our L.A. parks score card will be ready in early 2017.

The Controller's Financial Planning Program

75% of adults agree that they could benefit from a financial professional's advice and answers to every day questions. With that in mind, I will continue to host community workshops across the City to empower Angelenos with financial planning tools and resources.

Save the date—the next financial planning workshop will be held on January 25, 2017 from 6-7PM at the [North Hollywood Amelia Earhart Library](#).

For those of you who may have overspent on the holidays, this workshop is for you!

Controller Ron Galperin's Financial Planning Program
**JOIN CONTROLLER RON GALPERIN
AND COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KREKORIAN**

FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR AFTER-HOLIDAY STRESS

A FREE EVENT

Did you...

- Spend too much money on holiday gifts?
- Get an additional credit card because of promotional rates?

Do you have a plan to deal with after-holiday financial stress?

**NORTH HOLLYWOOD AMELIA
EARHART REGIONAL LIBRARY | JANUARY 25 | 6-7PM**



 **LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY**

 **PAUL KREKORIAN**
COUNCILMEMBER, NORTHERN DISTRICT

 **RON | GALPERIN**
Los Angeles City Controller

North Hollywood Amelia
Earhart Regional Library
5211 Tujunga Avenue
North Hollywood, CA 91601

For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to event.

Grateful for my staff

The holidays are an opportunity to say thank you to the many men and women who serve in my office. Congratulations to those receiving awards this year, and to the many who reached milestones in their years of City service.

Commitment to Excellence Employee Awards
Paul Alberga

Grace Gang
Jose Gatchalian
Rose Langsangan
Saran Phuangchoey
Daniel Quach
Donna Williams

Ten years of service

Dingding Chen
Chengni (Jenny) Chuang
Khoa Doan
Albert Lee
Angela Lee
Tae Hoon Lee
Armenuhi Oganessian
Claudette Tolentino
Nghia Tran
Yuchen Wu

Fifteen years of service

Matthew Crawford
Marie De Los Reyes
Necitas Florendo
Charlene Lee
Robert Odulio
Brad Olson
Jemmie Tam
Louella Ubaldo

Twenty years of service

Elizabeth Lee
Ricardo Munoz
Amy Robles

Twenty five years of service

Frieda Huang

Thirty years of service

Ernesto Solda
Susan Yi



Around the Community



Lighting the Menorah to celebrate Hanukkah at City Hall with the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles.



The Brotherhood Crusade was a celebration of the pioneering accomplishments of the African American community.



I was humbled to be honored at the 1st Empowerment Fashion Show by Safe Passage for survivors of domestic violence.



The holiday season was in full swing at the Pacoima Holiday Parade (left) and the Echo Park Community Parade (right)!



The Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association sponsored a heartwarming toy drive to benefit the L.A. County Department of Children and Family Services.



Giving away turkeys and toys at the L.A. Trial Lawyers Charity event at the New Prospect Baptist Church.



The Hollenbeck Youth Center hosted the Miracle on 1st Street toy drive and parade.



The Controller's Financial Planning Program was a big success with the Silver Lake community.



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Los Angeles City Controller Ron Galperin · United States

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